

great tragedy on Calvary. His words were full of grace and his life of kindness.

Lesson Story

It was the Sabbath. Doubtless Jesus had been to the synagogue to attend the church services as was his usual custom. There, after services, a chief Pharisee had invited him to his home for dinner.

The Pharisee's Motive.—Whether the Pharisee asked him home to dinner because Jesus was a homeless man, or because Jesus was a noted stranger, or because the Pharisee wanted to entrap him in his talk we are not told. But from what Jesus said to him later it was hardly for the reason that Jesus was a homeless stranger. It is said in the lesson that after Jesus was there, "They watched him" to see whether he would heal a man who had the dropsy whom they had invited there perhaps for that very purpose.

Jesus and the Lawyers and Pharisees.—Jesus saw the dropsical man. He also saw the condition of the hateful, cunning hearts of these religionists, without religion. Therefore, in order to place himself to advantage before these enemies of his, Jesus asked, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath day?" But, tho each heard the question, each was busy with his dinner and answered not. They would not spoil the trap they had laid for Jesus by speaking. But Christ knew that if they replied not to his question that their hateful motives would be revealed.

Jesus and the Man with Dropsy.—When no reply came to his question, Jesus turned to the afflicted man. For Christ to see suffering was for him to desire to heal it. Without a word more to these cavers, Christ healed the man and sent him away.

The Master's Justification.—Then turning to his enemies who were rejoicing in the thought that before their eyes Jesus had broken the Sabbath law as they interpreted it, he said, "Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fall into an old well and will not immediately pull him out on the Sabbath day?" They were ready to find some way to get their property out on the Sabbath, but murmured because Jesus would heal a man. Surely, they like too many today were straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

There are certain today who think it wrong to wear anything but a bonnet of a certain style, but as long as a woman has that she can violate all the other demands of modesty and scripture with impunity.

These teachers of the Law and Pharisees were silent again to Christ's question, this time because they could not answer. People who will not, become so they cannot.

A Parable.—But Jesus had another lesson for these righteous (?) Pharisees.

When he noticed how they chose out for themselves the best places at the dinner table, Jesus rebuked them as follows: "When you are invited to a wedding feast, do not sit down in the best place, lest a man of higher rank than yourself come in and he that asked you to come shall come and say to you, make room for this man, and you will have

to take a lower place. But, instead, take first the lowest position, the one of least honor, so that when the host comes around, he may say to you, "Friend go up higher." Then you shall have honor before those that are there with you. For it is an eternal law, true in every relation of life, in religion as in worldly affairs, that, "All those who exalt themselves, will be humbled, but those who humble themselves shall be exalted." Truly, this is a lesson we all can learn as well as those Pharisees.

Christ's Rebuke of the Host.—Turning from the other guests to the host Jesus said, "When you give a dinner or a supper do not ask your friends or your relatives, or your rich neighbors, lest they ask you in return and thus you would be repaid. But, instead, when you make a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind, and then you shall be truly blessed and happy, for they cannot repay you, but you shall be recompensed at the resurrection of the good." Here is a doctrine of feasts which the world has not yet learned. We all feast our friends and relatives and do not often invite those who cannot invite us back. How much good we might do by literally obeying these words of the master!

Lesson Applied

1. All depends on your motive for inviting Jesus into your house as to whether you will receive a blessing.
2. Christ, and the disciples also, will do right whether it offend people or not.
3. But Christ, and also the wise disciples, will justify his conduct.
4. Christ was no hermit.
5. We find no occasion when Jesus refused an invitation to dinner.
6. Jesus blessed people by being sociable with them. An example for us, his disciples.
7. But Jesus always used these dinner occasions to teach men lessons of life. Our dinners with men can be sanctified to God's glory and their blessing.
8. Seeking the honorable place for one's self is still seen.
9. How true it is that the humble man is the most truly honored, even by men. Be humble. Fear not to abase yourself.
10. Sinners invite friends to dinner. Christians ought to be better than they.
11. What a reformation and what an influence for God, if all Christians would use their hospitality to win sinners to Christ.

J. L. GILLIN.

Educational

Go To College

Many young men and women are considering the college question just now. They are counting the cost, and are wondering whether the benefits to be secured from a college course compensate them for the time and effort involved. But there is really no room for debate. The arguments are all on one side. Young people should attend college:

1. That they may be better prepared for life. Young people are eager to begin early. They should be more eager to begin well prepared. Too many come into active life like Ephraim—"a cake not turned," or a cake half-baked.
2. Because it increases their efficiency. An untrained mind is a dull tool. "If the iron be blunt, and he do not whet the edge, then must he put on more strength."
3. To acquire mental control. The mental facul-

ties will either be an army or a mob. It takes drill to create an army.

4. To widen their horizon. "No perspective, no ambition" The "college outlook" is worth all the "practical experience" that could be obtained in many times four years.

5. For the benefit of college associations. Contact with teachers and with fellow students, under the happiest circumstances, is most valuable. Self-respect, humility, and sympathy are all developed by it.

6. To get a correct philosophy of life. Right views of God, his Word, his plan, and his kingdom are fundamental. Right attitudes are essential. "The inquiring love of truth and the devoted love of goodness" are about the best results of a true college training.

7. Because a college education pays. The facts prove that a liberal education adds ten years to a man's life. He is prepared to do at thirty what he would not be able to do until forty without such training.

Not all young people who go thru college succeed. Some fail utterly. But the chances of success are multiplied many fold. The world is full of examples of this fact.

Go to college, my boy, or girl. Never mind the obstacles which may be in your way. Face them resolutely. Conquer them. Go to college even if you have no money to pay the bills. Thousands of the best men and women among college graduates worked their way thru. What they did you can do.—*Epworth Herald*.

Pray For the Schools

If culture becomes materialistic in tone or aim, skeptical in spirit, rationalistic in temper, selfish in nature, or weak in its grasp, then the kingdom of our Master suffers. We cannot save the ages if our intellectual life be narrow or shallow or our spiritual life be thin and dry. Our new symbol must be the classic lamp of culture and the "cloven tongues like as of fire," the book and the altar. For Christ is our Master, and service to Him thru those for whom He died is our commanding duty and unparalleled opportunity. May the spirit of Christ possess the schools, and the schools follow the great white Captain in culture, consecration, and service! Pray for the schools!—*William F. McDowell*.

College Notes

One of the things which made the opening of college work pleasant was the faces of so many of the old students. It speaks well for the work done when students return year after year to continue the courses they have begun.

The class in Civics will be organized this week so by the time this issue reaches the readers all the classes for this term will have been organized and regular work begun.

Brother E. D. Burnsworth was called to Glenford, O. Thursday to preach the funeral sermon of brother C. E. Deffenbaugh's youngest child.

Brother Wm Beechler was absent from College Hill over Sunday, filling his regular appointment at Miamisburg.

Brother Furry's sermon at the Congregational church a week ago Sunday was evidently appreciated if we can judge by the notice he recieved in the city papers.

A new telephone was put in the dormitory last week and it is said that we will have free mail delivery after Oct. 1. This makes College Hill a very delightful place to live.

Dr. Schoppe promises us several lectures